

February 25, 2001

Commissioner Jane Henney  
Food & Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch- HFA-305  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

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Docket #: OON-1396, OOD-1598

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I am writing to express to you my concerns about the presence of Genetically Modified Organisms, (GMO's) in our food supply. GMO's have not been proven safe for humans or the environment.

Therefore, I request that you require mandatory labeling of products containing GMO's themselves or in any of their ingredients. We deserve as citizens to choose whether we want to buy products with genetically manipulated ingredients or not. The bio-tech industry has lobbied against labeling for years. They can't be expected to comply voluntarily.

The other related concern I have is that the financial burden for testing GMO existence in foods be shifted off of those food producers and farmers attempting to create "GMO FREE" products. The financial burden for testing should be born by those who introduced this technology without adequate safety trials, namely the ag-biotech businesses and food giants who choose to plant genetically engineered crops.

Wisdom dictates a moratorium on planting genetically altered crops until such time as they can be proven safe with regard to humans and the environment. The least you can do as a regulatory agency is mandate labeling of GMO's so that we, as individual Americans, can choose whether to ingest them.

Thank you for taking public comments into consideration.

Sincerely,

Rev. Sandra J. Whippie



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